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| APPLICATION NO.  | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.   | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 10/662,279   | 09/16/2003  | Lan-Shi Huang        | HUAN3214/EM           | 9810             |
| 23364  | 7590        | 03/23/2005           | EXAMINER              |                  |
| BACON & THOMAS, PLLC<br>625 SLATERS LANE<br>FOURTH FLOOR<br>ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314 |             |                      | ESTREMSKY, GARY WAYNE |                  |
|  |             | ART UNIT             |                       | PAPER NUMBER     |
|  |             |                      |                       | 3676             |

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

|                              |                            |                     |  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | <b>Application No.</b>     | <b>Applicant(s)</b> |  |
|                              | 10/662,279                 | HUANG, LAN-SHI      |  |
|                              | Examiner<br>Gary Estremsky | Art Unit<br>3676    |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 16 September 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                     | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
|  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .                                  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The scope and meaning of "tightly assembled relationship" and "loose-assembled relationship" is not established with reasonable amount of clarity. Additionally, the written description indicates that he lock assembly (70) includes at least part 74, in addition to those recited in the "consisted of" clause in claim 1. Limitation of 'consist' is normally interpreted as including no additional elements to those explicitly listed. 'As best understood', the term should be replaced with --comprising--.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 5,562,317 to Kuo in view of U.S. Pat. No. 4,966,399 to Lin.

Kuo '317 teaches Applicant's claim limitations including : an "inner rose" - 12, an "inner lever" - 11, an "actuating press rod" - 23, an "unlocking cam" - 21, inner actuating wheel" – 22. while kuo '317 does not explicitly illustrate an "outer rose", "outer lever", and outer actuating wheel", the reference does explicitly indicate that the indoor assembly disclosed is intended to be used with an outer handle assembly and one of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious at the time of the invention to provide it with an outer handle assembly including a rose, lever, and actuating wheel as taught by Lin '399 for example. One of ordinary skill in the art would have more than a reasonable expectation of success since the inner door knob assembly is intended to be used with an outer door knob assembly and the combination would not otherwise affect the function of the inner door knob assembly of Kuo '317.

As regards claim 2, Kuo '317 teaches structure including 234,224,217 teaching claim limitation.

As regards claim 5, kuo '317 teaches "aperture" – at 129.

As regards claim 6, Kuo '317 teaches "press button" – 231.

As regards claim 8, Kuo '317 teaches "inner shaft" – at 113,114.

As regards claim 9, part 21 includes 215,215.

As regards claim 10, 22 includes 222,222.

### ***Conclusion***

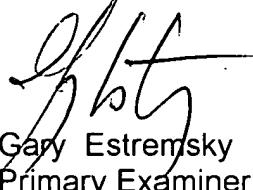
3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Pat. No. 3,823,585 to Spon.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gary Estremsky whose telephone number is 703 308-0494. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Thur 7:30-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tom Will can be reached on 703 308-3870. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Gary Estremsky  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3676